ORDINANCE NO. 2020-02

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY, TEXAS, PROVIDING FOR THE HOLDING OF A SPECIAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON MAY 2, 2020, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ELECTING A CITY COUNCIL MEMBER TO FILL THE VACANCY FOR THE UNEXPIRED TERM FOR CITY COUNCIL MEMBER PLACE 1; APPROVING ELECTION SERVICE AGREEMENTS WITH MONTGOMERY COUNTY, TEXAS; AND PROVIDING DETAILS RELATING TO THE HOLDING OF SUCH SPECIAL ELECTION.

WHEREAS, the City Council passed Ordinance No. 2020-01 in January 2020, by which it called an election for the mayor and two City Council positions, Places 2 and 4; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has subsequently received and accepted the resignation of City Council member Jon Bickford, Place 1; and

WHEREAS, there is now a vacancy for the unexpired term of approximately twelve (12) months for City Council Member, Place 1 which by the Texas Election Code should by filled by a special called election; and

WHEREAS, the City Council for the City of Montgomery desires to call a Special Election on May 2, 2020 for the unexpired term of City Council member, Place 1, in accordance with the election laws of the State of Texas; and

WHEREAS, the City Council desires to engage the services of the County Election Officer of Montgomery County to conduct the special called election pursuant to a *Joint Elections Agreement* and an *Election Services Agreement* with Montgomery County, Texas; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF MONTGOMERY, TEXAS THAT:

Section 1. In accordance with the Texas Constitution and general laws of the State of Texas, a Special City Election is hereby called and ordered for the first Saturday in May, 2020, that being May 2, 2020, at which Special Election all qualified voters of the City may vote for the purpose of electing a City Council Member, Place 1, for the unexpired term of approximately twelve (12) months.

Section 2. The City Council hereby approves the *Joint Elections Agreement* and *Election Services Agreement* with Montgomery County, Texas, which authorizes the County Election Officer to conduct the General and Special City Election on May 2, 2020 and early voting.

Section 3. No person's name shall be placed upon the official ballot for the Special Election as a candidate for the position of City Council Member, Place 1 unless such person has

filed his or her sworn application, as provided by Section 141.031, Section 143.004, and Section 143.007 of the Texas Election Code, with the City Secretary at the City Hall, located at 101 Old Plantersville Road, Montgomery, Texas, 77316, adjusted for weekends and holidays no later than five o'clock (5:00) p.m. on March 3, 2020. The City Secretary shall note on the face of each such application, the date and time of its filing. A declaration of write-in candidacy must be filed with the City Secretary, as provided by Section 146.054 of the Texas Election Code. The last day for a write-in candidate to declare candidacy with the City Secretary is March 3, 2020 by five o'clock (5:00) p.m. In addition, the last day for a candidate to withdraw must be received by the City Secretary by March 6, 2020, by five o'clock (5:00) p.m., unless the candidate submits the withdrawal before the ballots are prepared and if the public notice of the logic and accuracy test has not been published. (HB4129)

Section 4. The polls shall be open for voting from seven o'clock (7:00) a.m. until seven o'clock (7:00) p.m. at the following polling places, to be conducted by the officers appointed by the Contracting Officer as provided in the *Election Services Agreement* between the City of Montgomery, Texas and the County Election Officer of Montgomery, Texas, as follows:

For persons located in Voting Precinct 9:

Polling Place: Dobbin-Dacus Community Center

Address: 695 South FM 1486, Montgomery, TX 77316

For persons located in Voting Precinct 19:

Polling Place: Montgomery City Hall

Address: 101 Old Plantersville Road, Montgomery, TX 77316

For persons located in Voting Precinct 38:

Polling Place: West Montgomery County Annex

Address: 19380 Highway 105 W., Suite 507, Montgomery, TX 77356

For persons located in Voting Precinct 39:

Polling Place: Lake Creek High School

Address: 20639 FM 2854, Montgomery, TX 77316

Said election officers shall also serve as the early voting ballot board for such election; the Presiding Judge of such election shall also serve as the presiding officer of the early voting ballot

board.

The County Election Officer for Montgomery County is authorized to change the above polling

locations should there be a need to consolidate them for both early voting and for Election Day.

Section 5. In accordance with the Texas Election Code and the Election Services

Agreement, the Contracting Officer shall serve as the regular early voting clerk to receive ballot

applications by mail for both the General Election and the Special Election. All ballots by mail

applications received by the City Secretary must be hand delivered or faxed to the Contracting

Officer as provided in the Election Services Agreement on the day of receipt and the original

application mailed or delivered to the Contracting Officer. Further those persons voting early can

vote in any of the designated early voting locations and at the times set out in Exhibit "A" as made

a part hereof for all purposes. The early voting locations will be open from Monday, April 20,

2020 through Saturday, April 25, 2020, Monday through Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and

Monday, April 27, 2020 and Tuesday, April 28, 2020, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Ballots voted by

mail shall be sent to:

Suzie Harvey

Elections Administrator

P.O. Box 2646

Conroe, Texas 77305-2646

*Email: election.ballot@mctx.org

*Fax: (936) 788-8340

*If an application for Ballot By Mail is submitted by email or fax or if a Federal Post Card Application is submitted by fax, to be effective, the application must also be submitted by mail and received not later than the fourth business day after it is received by email or fax.

Section 6. Voting shall be conducted by the Contracting Officer for both the General Election and the Special Election utilizing the voting machines and equipment supplied by the Contracting Officer. All expenditures necessary for conducting the election, the purchase of materials, and the employment of all election officials is hereby authorized in accordance with the Texas Election Code and in accordance with the provisions of the *Election Services Agreement* and the *Joint Services Agreement*.

Section 7. The City Secretary is hereby authorized and directed (i) to furnish all necessary election supplies to conduct such elections, (ii) to post notice of the elections, and (iii) to publish notice of the elections, as provided by Chapter 4 and Chapter 51 of the Texas Election Code except as may be provided in the *Election Services Agreement* referred to above.

Section 8: The order in which the names of the candidates are to be printed on the ballot shall be determined by a drawing by the City Secretary, as provided by Section 52.094 of the Texas Election Code. The City Secretary shall post a notice at City Hall at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the date on which the drawing is to be held with the time and place of the drawing, and shall also give personal notice to any candidate who makes written request for such notice and furnishes the City Secretary a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Each candidate involved in the drawing or representative designated by him/her, shall have a right to be present and observe the drawing.

Section 9. The candidates for the City Council Member, Place 1, receiving the highest number of votes in the position to be filled for the unexpired term shall be declared elected to such positions.

Section 10. Notice of this election shall be given in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Election Code and returns of such notice shall be made as provided for in said Code. The Mayor shall issue all necessary orders and writs for such election; and returns of such election shall be made to the City Secretary immediately after the closing of the polls.

Section 11. Said Special Election shall be held in accordance with the Texas Election Code, as amended, except as modified by the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

Section 12. The Council finds that notice of the date, place, and subject of this meeting was posted in accordance with the terms and provisions of the Texas Open Meetings Act at least 72 hours proceeding the scheduled time of this meeting.

Section 13. This Ordinance is effective immediately upon its passage.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 11th DAY OF FEBRUARY 2020.

ATTEST:

Susan Hensley, City Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

/s/Larry Foerster, City Attorney

Mayor Sara Countryman

EXHIBIT A

Montgomery County May 2, 2020 Joint Election Early Voting Polling Locations and Times

April 20 – 25	Monday	Saturday	8:00 am - 5:00 pm
April 27 – 28	Monday	Tuesday	7:00 am - 7:00 pm

Polling Location Sitio de Votación	Address Dirección	Room Sala
Lee G. Alworth Building (Main Early Voting Polling Place Sitio Principal Electoral de Votación Adelantada)	207 West Phillips Street Conroe 77301	First Floor Primer Piso
West Montgomery County Community Development Center	31355 Friendship Drive Magnolia 77355	Green Room Sala Verde
Shenandoah Municipal Complex	29955 I-45 North Shenandoah 77381	Council Chambers Salon de Consejo y Pasillo
North Montgomery County Community Center	600 Gerald Street Willis 77378	Community Room 102/103 Sala Comunitaria 102/103
East Montgomery County Fair Association Building	21675A McCleskey Road New Caney 77357	Main Room Sala Principal
Lone Star Community Center	2500 Lone Star Parkway Montgomery 77356	Community Room 103/104 Sala Comunitaria 103/104
Limited Ballots, Special Forms of Early Voting and Ballot by Mail only: Boletas Limitadas, Formas Especiales de Votación Adelantada, y Boleta por Correo solamente: Election Central	9159 Airport Road Conroe 77303	